



Celebrating Roxbury Community College's Urban Garden

By **Daniel Alfaro**
Special to The Gazette

The Roxbury Community College Garden Service Learning Project celebrates another successful year of grass-roots gardening that aims to educate the College community, as well the Greater Roxbury area, about locally produced fresh fruits and vegetables. Professor Nasreen Latif, founder of the RCC Garden, and a faculty member of the Social Sciences department, has encouraged all students to be part of this collaborate

exchange of learning on the benefits of local healthy food options, using community dialogues, community forums, and volunteer opportunities.

One of Professor Latif's students, Share-Leigh Arneaud-Bernard, has always had a love for planting and joined the RCC Garden in the Spring of 2011. "This project has given me so much insight and knowledge into the world of Gardening and Agriculture. Due to the project, I am now able to conserve and preserve seeds so that we can use them to plant in the spring. I learned how

to make my own little garden at home which will be my own personal project for the spring of 2012. I also realized that with a little patience and time the rewards are endless. We can already see the "fruits" of our labor and I hope that we continue to," said Arneaud-Bernard.

Professor Latif has made it her mission to "teach about the importance of locally produced food for local consumption". This year 70% of all of the produce that is harvested will be given

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Celebrating Roxbury Community College's Urban Garden

Roxbury Community College Becomes a Leader College

By **Prof. Sterling Giles**
Coordinator of Achieving the Dream

This fall RCC was granted Achieving the Dream Leader College status, making us one of 52 schools nation-wide which have demonstrated broad engagement and use of evidence to improve programs and services. These schools may or may not have the best student outcomes when measured by

completion or transfer rates; those metrics are static, but the leader college criteria are more dynamic. Leader colleges are schools that have what it takes to drive their own evolution—schools with systemic potential to improve over time, schools that are managing their change well. This is a gratifying conclusion to our five-years with this grant.

Achieving the Dream (AtD) is a national initiative to help colleges support students as they aim to earn a certificate or degree. We are now in the final year of this grant. Keep reading if you want to know more about the types

of things happening on campus with these funds.

Mathematics is one of the hardest courses for many students. Due to a series of changes in the Math Department, the rate at which students moved from developmental to college-level math almost tripled over five years from 2006 to 2011. This is great news, but still some students are left behind, and we continue to work on math success with things like the Math Clinic and MyMathLab.

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New on Campus

By **Tia Myers**
Gazette Staff Reporter

There are many new exciting things going on around campus at Roxbury Community College. Marshall D. Hughes is your Director of Visual, Performing, and Media Arts. He's been working at RCC for 10 years. Marshall is also a director of music so he says that he is fortunate to do what he loves to do.

Mainstage Theater (Media Arts Building) is hosting two plays. One is called To Kill a Mockingbird and the other is called Cabaret. To Kill a Mockingbird opened in October to rave reviews.

There are two ways to find out about Mainstage Theater: on the web and via

RCC email. Students who are a part of a club can speak to Ms. Elizabeth Clark, Director of Student Life, who is in charge of rental space. Community members can also talk to Marshall to see if the theater is available. The charge is \$300 dollars an hour.

Mr. Hughes chooses plays though the reader's list for high school and college students. Last year he chose Of Mice of Men that was on the high school reading list. We also had a lot of famous people perform on the RCC Stage like Tuffus Zimbab, a famous jazz pianist for Saturday Night Live and Roy Hanes, a famous drummer. Deval Patrick, Massachusetts governor, has used the venue as well.

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RCC Men's Basketball: a New Season

By **Victor Martinez**
Gazette Staff Reporter

Another exciting season of RCC men's basketball is right around the corner, and the Roxbury community should begin to take notice. Last season the Tigers finished off with a record of 20 wins and 6 defeats as well as a trip to regionals. Most would consider that a good season. Nevertheless, the Tigers feel as if last season was a learning experience.

When speaking with Assistant Coach DeMarco Lundy, who has been with the team for 5 years, he expressed that last season the coaches had an opportunity to "learn from the players," something that the team benefited from highly. When asked what would be different



from last season to this one, Coach Lundy was quick to reply, "We've gained a great hunger." Coach Lundy also added, "This should be one of the better teams in a while with the thanks to a great recruiting class, experience from the players coming back, and hard work all around from coaches to the players."

Lundy was asked if he would like to say something to the RCC basketball fans, and he stated, "We love when you guys come out and support your team against our big rivals in the city, but this year we are going to play a very exciting style of basketball and want to see the Reggie Lewis Center packed for every home game to put the pressure on our

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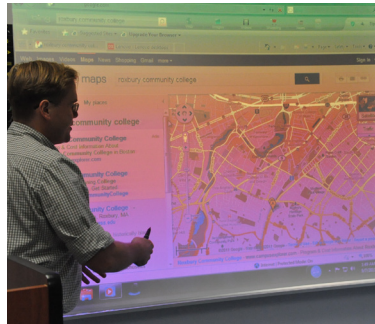
RCC meets Technology

By **Shurita Parson**
Gazette Staff Reporter

Roxbury Community College is upgrading their classrooms with assistive technology. This system is designed to help people who struggle with computing, organizing, aligning, and copying math problems down on paper. Kristin Stanberry and Marshall Raskind, PhD, described the program: "It's like an Ipad tool where they write on the pad." In doing that it saves their notes on this white pad and sends it to their school email.

Even cafeterias are getting involved with the new era. They have been upgrading since the fall of last year and everything is starting to come into place.

Albert Cole, a BMT student, states, "I have been here for two years and I was impressed by the new changes. These changes are grasping the student's attention." Even our software programs are being upgraded; you can see this in the Writing Center, Math Lab, IT programs, Broadcast Media programs and many more.



Going for a bite to eat on campus and sitting in a classroom still interacting with the outside world is the term of today. Kiona Lucas, a new student, said, "I am happy that they have these upgraded machines. It's more convenient for me and safe because I do not carry cash on me anymore."

We have upgraded from Café' cash to Café ATM. RCC machines accept your debit/credit cards. You can even purchase a 'pay as you go' pass. All you would do is tap, pay and grub. This is more like a Charlie Card lunch card. We can be expecting more technological upgrades to RCC.

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What’s New at Roxbury Community College?

By **MarQuise Brooks**
Gazette Staff Reporter

Off to a great start! Roxbury Community College has extended their degree program by including one of the state’s most challenging Nursing Programs. An Associate’s Degree in the Veterinary Program has also been added. Expanding has never been better.

In addition, the exciting new feature to this program that RCC has incorporated is a “third semester” to aid people who cannot start in September. The new semester is called “Autumn Access.” The semester provides a limited range of classes that will help students on their individual degree track to graduating or transferring to a four year educational institution. Roxbury Community College is capturing the essence of education and success.

Shanice Whethers, a 19 year old Roxbury student, dreams of one day becoming a veterinarian. In addition, Ms. Whethers aspires to open her very own Veterinarian Clinic in the heart of

the city. Financial hardships are a dilemma for every student. Yet Roxbury Community College’s improved financial packages allow students to pursue their dreams. Ms. Whethers chose this particular educational path because of the new information they had for this degree program. “This is something I dream of doing.”

A dream no longer deferred. Ms. Whethers explains how she came to RCC a year ago as a Liberal Arts major. Because it wasn’t satisfying her career needs, she ventured to a college more suitable. Now that RCC is supporting her needs, she re-enrolled.

Roxbury Community College has revamped and reinvented its academic offerings to provide a more structural degree program for all majors. So much has changed; most colleges have developed new programs for attracting young students. RCC has done more concrete improvements with funding, educational programs, and even by adding the new semester. The institution has a new outlook. Ms. Whethers is very proud to be here.

Life of the Café

By **Albert Coleman-Brown**
Gazette Staff Reporter

I’ve been attending Roxbury Community College for the past year and half. Everyone has their own opinion about something on campus and what I want to talk about is the cafeteria. I think that the new cafeteria is amazing and the staff is very well mannered. But the café we had before was bigger and had more space to move around. I just wish that the eating lounge was a little bit bigger because the eating lounge we had before had much more seating, and the lounges we have now are old classrooms.

I asked some returning RCC students what they thought about the old and new café and the lounges. One student said she thought the old café created a better social environment. She also said that “the menu was better because the food was more enticing and the prices were also more reasonable.”

She then stated that “the previous café had outrageous prices and that they [were] charging almost \$3.00 for a slice of pizza that was sometimes nasty and cold.” When I asked if there

was anything she would change about the café she said, “I would want lower prices, have a better variety of food and also implement some healthy diets on the menu.” I asked if there was anything she liked about the new café lounge. She said, “I like the new eating area. I like the the television. However, I wish the lounge had magazines that we could read while eating because not everybody watches television.”

While interviewing students, I came across another returning student and decided to get her input on the new café. She said, “The new cafeteria is advanced. It has been set to the need for those that carry debit cards because not everybody carries cash with them... the old cafe was plain. Now it’s a place to study and eat.” She also added that before the food they had was just pizza, and now the new food vendor gives a variety of choices.

Overall, I like the new café; I just wish that it was where the old one was because it would give students a better chance to come together and socialize with one another.

RCC Men’s Basketball ...

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opponents and elevate our team’s play.”

With head coach Kwami Green, assistant coaches Tyron Boswell, Quentin Wilson and DeMarco Lundy, this season should be promising for RCC men’s basketball. Saturday, November 5th begins the Roxbury Community College Invitational, and the Home Opener will be Tuesday, November 8th at 7pm. Remember to come out and support the RCC men’s basketball team all season. It should turn out to be a great one.

New on Campus ...

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Mr. Hughes also gives back to the community by letting other colleges or high schools use the stage for plays and shows. Emerson College sometimes rents out our theater for plays and shows. When they do that, RCC students get in free with a college ID.

Other people who don’t go to the college get to see it too, but they must pay only \$5.00 dollars to see it.

Marshall Hughes is going to be at RCC for a lot more years to come. He says he is not done until he retires. He is having fun, loves his job, and enjoys students and faculty.

Celebrating Roxbury ...

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to all of those who volunteer to maintain the garden, while 30% is reserved for the College to sell to the community at affordable prices.

The RCC Garden welcomes students from the college and members from the community to participate on the project. For more information about the RCC Garden Project, please contact Professor Nasreen Latif at nlatif@rcc.mass.edu

Daniel Alfaro is a student at RCC. This article was published in the Fenway News Online Community Newspaper on October 24, 2011 and was reprinted with the permission of the publisher.

“Sweetie, You’re Two Months Pregnant”

By **Cindy Janvier**
Special to The Gazette

The smell of medicine was making me nauseous as I waited for Dr. Thompson at the Codman Square Hospital. I paced back and forth to calm my nerves; I was beginning to quiver from the coldness in the room. Gazing out the window, I smiled at the bitter drivers on Washington Street stuck in the five o’clock traffic jam. Looking up, I realized the television was on; I turned the volume up, lay down on the green plastic bed, took the white blanket and made myself comfortable. My mind drifted away and I fell into a light sleep. “It’s sad cause Brenda doesn’t even know.”

“Brenda?” I looked up and saw Dr. Thompson wearing a black outfit with a white jacket. “Yes,” I replied, as I sat up on the bed. From this point forward, I felt like everything was happening in slow motion. She slowly took off her glasses, set them on the metal desk, let out a big sigh, and rubbed her forehead while looking at the tile floors. My heart was beating so fast and hard that I was afraid it would jump out of my chest. Although it was brisk in the doctor’s office, I was sweating. She looked at me with such sorrow in her eyes and said, “Brenda, you’re very young, and I want you to know that this hospital can be a second home to you.” She walked over, held my hands with a firm grip and said, “Sweetie, you’re two months pregnant.”

Without saying a word, I got up and ran without a destination in mind with fear in my eyes and soul. The next door I ran into was the ladies room. Before I could get into a stall, I threw up everything I ate. I stumbled over to the white sink and threw cold water on my face. I looked at myself in the mirror and I did not recognize my own face. My skin became pale, my eyes had dark rings

“It’s sad cause I bet Brenda doesn’t even know. Just cause you’re in the ghetto doesn’t mean you can’t grow. But oh, that’s a thought, my own revelation.”

around them and my body was already changing form. I questioned myself, “How could it be?” “What’s my mom going to say?” Tears flowed down like a river as I thought of the final question, “How’s Jeremy going to take this?” The only response I received was the echoes of my voice in the empty bathroom. At the moment I was going to leave the bathroom, Dr. Thompson entered. We talked about how I was going to break the news to Jeremy and my mother. I fought myself over and over again before finally deciding that we were going to call them into the hospital.

Moments later, bursting through the doors with an astonished look upon their faces were with a smile Jeremy and my mother. I quickly ran into my mother’s arms, pouring my heart onto her shoulders. Dr. Thompson decided to leave the room and let me break the news. Jeremy sat down on the metal chair and waited anxiously to hear what I had to say as my mother stood behind him. Their eyes followed me as I faced the white wall. “I’m pregnant” I said as fear filled my throat. I heard the chair slide across the tile floors. I quickly turned around and, before I could say anything, Jeremy was embracing me in his arms with the brightest look of joy on his face. I indulged myself in his cologne, closed my eyes and wrapped my arms around him. The sound of my mother’s brown heels bought her to my attention. Jeremy released me from his grip and looked over at my mother. As he held my hand, I could feel his pulse through his palm. My mother lifted her head up, looked at me and said with a smile, “Looks like I’m a grandma.”

Walking out of the hospital, seeing the sun shine brightly, smelling the different aromas of incense from the street entrepreneurs, made me feel grateful. Grateful to be able to give life and give my child what my mother has given me. As we rode home I said to myself “just

The 50 Yard Dash to Success

By **Hakim Cunningham**
Gazette Staff Reporter

Tara McElroy is on the track team here at Roxbury Community College and is working towards her Associate’s Degree. She had a great childhood and grew up in a stable two-parent household with a loving mother and father. Sometimes she talks about being able to go back in time and do it all over again just because it brings back so many good feelings and memories that make her smile a lot. Being the only child of a mother and father who already had two children prior to this marriage made for an eventful upbringing.

Tara ran track in middle school and it is there where she also developed a love for drawing which to this day she thinks about. Growing up in the Dorchester section of Boston, she plans to pursue her Bachelor’s Degree at Northeastern University. As a Boston native, Tara has seen a lot in her few years on this planet with all of the violence and problems that plague the black community in Boston.

She is very team oriented, something that she picked up in her early years of being a student athlete, and she said that she likes to work with others because she is a people person. She is a fashionable and hip young lady who has her

eyes on the prize and knows what she has to do to be successful. With a very humble and peaceful demeanor and aura she comes off like a young black professional poised for success and looking to the future.

Currently enrolled as a fulltime student, she plans on staying in school because she feels that that is the path to a successful future. She does not have any kids but plans to have some in her future once she is financially stable. Tare is small in stature but big on presence and ideas, which hold power. I feel that she has a future carved out for her already in this world.

Blame the Parents for Gang Violence

By **Chidebe Emeka**
Special to The Gazette

There is high level of violence in Massachusetts. Every day the television carries breaking news of stabbings, shootings, and domestic violence. Parents obviously ask why there is such chaos in our community. But parents should ask themselves what effort they made to help their children grow in a way that is right. “Train a child the way he should grow and when he grows he

will not depart from it.” Many of these gang-stars grew up watching their so-called parent indulging in drugs and domestic violence. Consequently, they grew up doing exactly what their parent did. Most times, parents are too busy to look into their children’s affair. Parental influence is the number one factor in gang violence in our community.

Parents are the first line of defense in combating gang violence. They should endeavor to live a positive and exemplary lifestyle for their children to emu-

late. It is up to each parent to show their child that they love and care for them. It is not enough to simply say, “I love you.” Your child needs parental interaction to show him or her that you really do love and care about their welfare. Parents shouldn’t totally ignore their children in the name of work. They should always find time to check on their day to day activities and give them the best help and support they need.



The Gateway Gazette is the official publication of the student body of Roxbury Community College. Submissions from the college community are welcome. All submissions are subject to editing. Opinions stated within the paper are not necessarily endorsed by the newspaper staff.

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because you’re in the ghetto doesn’t mean you can’t grow.” “Huh?” said Jeremy. I smiled and replied “oh just a thought, my own revelation.”

Note: *Italics reflect lyrics from the song “Brenda’s Got a Baby” by Tupac Shakur*

Ed. Note: *Cindy Janvier is a student in Prof. Rhonda Gray’s Comp.1 class*

The short stories written by students in Prof. Gray’s Composition I course attempt to mirror the writing style and content Toni Morrison employs in Jazz, a novel about a love triangle with a fatal outcome that takes place in Harlem in 1926 when jazz music was the social and cultural pulse of the city. The novel is the key text for the class that explores the theme “Living an Urban Reality.”

YOUR
Opinion

DOES
Matter



More on RCC Gazette/ Monthly MBTA Passes

By Ciera Benford
Special to The Gazette

“Students are expected to be here every day to engage and partake in all required courses. Such a high expense (ed. note: transportation) should be covered as part of their tuition that they receive financial aid.” So states RCC student Charmayne Martin.

Students who attend school full time should be discounted on monthly MBTA passes because school is a very important asset in everyone’s life, especially college where we have to pay out of pocket, get a loan/grant, or receive financial aid. Either one of these sources of payment means you either have low income or you will eventually

have to pay back a loan if one was obtained. If you take the money out of our tuition, we will not have to worry about buying a pass for the rest of the semester.

I do not agree with student Taconya Hunter when she says that “students should not receive any assistance for obtaining an MBTA pass because it would be a program that is designed for low income students. Other schools do not offer this service, and we as students are not in high school anymore.” Not everyone has a job to be able to pay for an MBTA pass. If our school offered MBTA passes, we would get more acknowledgments, especially in the publicity field, for having great student services. This would be a great asset.



Re: MbtA Passes: Let’s Get Real

By Sarah Demers
Special to The Gazette

The student government at Roxbury Community College is debating the issue that would allow Financial Aid recipients a free MBTA pass. This idea is not going over well with some students. If you get your school paid for, then do you really need your transportation

paid for, too? This does not benefit the hardworking students who have to pay for school because they are the students that really need it. MBTA passes should not be up for discussion unless all students receive them. If this school helps one student, then they need to help all of the students. If the cost of education is off your shoulders, then get real and pay for your own MBTA passes.



The World of Fashion

By Shakenna Appleberry
Gazette Staff Reporter

Style is the first thing that I see when I look at an individual. So when I see females appearing like they just hopped out of bed or males with their pants sagging, showing the world their underwear, who should the finger point at? The clothing that a person wears speaks loud and clear, telling a person’s character. First impression is everything.

It’s an embarrassment to the designer who created the garment that they are wearing.

There are unique designers from all over the world and all of their garments may be the same but with a little twist to their style. Kanisha Jeffes, 31, of Roxbury, MA plans to open her own boutique. She has been creating clothing for people starting in her early childhood years. Kanisha says, “People who are in love with fashion make sure they stay on top.” Kanisha also expresses that “fashion will never die, but people will.”

In Boston it appears that roughly sixty percent of people look for the latest trends that go with the four seasons. Thirty percent have their own creative style. Then we have the other ten percent who don’t care how they look and would rather walk around with the same unwashed clothing for weeks.

Fashion is everywhere. which means that you can do just about anything while being creative. A person should understand that it’s not about matching the same colors. However, blending your colors is a must!

Student Travel

By Deishawn Thompson
Gazette Staff Reporter

Did you know that as a student the possibility of traveling abroad is at your fingertips? There are numerous organizations geared towards helping college students see the world.

There is Habitat for Humanity whose goal is building homes for the less fortunate here in the United States but also in mostly every country you can think of. There is also the Peace Corp which was designed to have students live in a country with a host family to become totally immersed in the culture but to also let them into yours. Lastly, there is the Student Travel Agency, which sets up students who want to work abroad teaching classes such as English.

The possibilities are endless for the student traveler with some of the organizations providing monetary assistance to get going if needed. So, students, pack your bags and go see the world!

Here are the websites for the following programs:
www.peacecorps.gov
www.statravel.com
www.habitat.org

INTERVIEW



Old Student, New Horizons

By Deishawn Thompson
Gazette Staff Reporter

This week’s profile is of 22 year old Silas Levy, athlete and student finishing his last semester here at Roxbury Community College. With so much going on in his academic and athletic career, he decided to fill me in on all his upcoming ventures and projects.

What are your plans for the upcoming spring?

I expect to graduate from RCC, hopefully attend either Emerson or UMass; I also would like to be employed.

What do you expect for your summer?

I plan to take summer courses at a four-year college, and I will continue training in the sport of boxing.

How has RCC shaped you as a student (if at all)?

It has allowed me to see the students that came to this school to learn versus the students who take their education for granted. It has also given me a second chance at a higher education; plus Roxbury Community College has made the transition from enrollment to graduation an easy one.

Do you think this college has prepared you for a four year institution?

Yes, this college has showed me the seriousness of discipline and time

management that I will take with me to a four-year college.

What are some of the best/worst memories you have of RCC?

Best memory: getting an A in English class; worst memory: failing a history class.

Which professor has left the most indelible mark on your education?

It would be Professor Updike, the Humanities professor, because he has a creative mind and thinks outside the box when it comes to teaching and life.

What will you take with you when you leave Roxbury Community College?

I will take with me the discipline and motivation to finish a two-year degree at RCC but also to pursue a four-year degree at a higher level. Roxbury Community College will always hold in my memory because it gave me back my education.

What do you hope for you future?

I hope to do what I love which is get paid to think creatively. I also have a few other plans up my sleeve, but I don’t want to share them because they might get stolen!

Any remarks, advice, words that you’d like to leave with the new students entering RCC?

Don’t get comfortable!

Coach Leszczyk



By Wesley Jean Baptiste
Gazette Staff Reporter

The Roxbury Community College woman’s basketball team is more than a force that needs to be recognized. The Lady Tigers have only been balling for four years and have been dominating their division, finishing number two in the country last season. I had the opportunity to interview the head coach of the Lady Tigers, three time coach of the year recipient Mark Leszczyk.

Are there any new recruits this year?

Yes, I am very excited about our new additions. We have Shannon Samuels and Theresa Mitchell, two explosive guards who form a nice 1-2 punch in the backcourt as well as local girl Chreese Hall from New Mission High who is a deadly shooter from the wing. We also added Brittany Allen, a 6-footer who is loaded with upside potential as well as two transfers in sophomore guard Jenicia Duggins and sophomore guard Khea Gibbs. We also have an incoming student athlete Breonna Pinckett, who will be enrolling at Roxbury in January. Breonna will not be playing this year, but will bring intensity and a positive attitude as a “red shirt” player.

What do you look for in a player?

I look for someone who is a competitor and who is willing to work to the maximum level of their ability in practice, in games, and most importantly in the

classroom. Being a player on our team is demanding. My athletes dedicate at least four hours per day to our program with practice, team study halls, weight training etc. This does not include the Community service work that we do, or the travel and games that we play. It is not easy to be a college athlete!

What is the toughest challenge about the upcoming season?

I’d say meeting expectations. After last year’s successful season (finishing #2 in the country), we are now an odds-on favorite to win a National Championship. I love that position and my players do as well. We have a target on our backs and it’s exciting!

Are there any out of state tournament coming up this year?

Yes, we are doing quite a bit of travelling this year. Our team has worked hard to raise our own funds to play in some competitive events. We are very excited about our trip to Marianna, Florida in November where we will be the only Division III team in a field of the country’s best Division I programs. That will be a challenge for sure! We also have tournaments in New York City, New Jersey, Syracuse and we will be spending 4 days in the Baltimore/DC area for a three game stretch. We have the most competitive schedule of any Junior College in New England.

Since the Lady Tigers commenced four years ago, how have the Lady Tigers grown over the years?

Well, there was no program when I started so we have grown from scratch. With the support of the entire Athletic Department as well as the Roxbury CC Administration, we have grown from a team that competed fairly well on a local level, to a nationally ranked power. We have been successful with placing our players at the scholarship Division I and II levels, and my phone never stops ringing from coaches at quality 4 year programs looking for information on our players.

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GATEWAY GAZETTE

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Staff and students are invited to send letters to the editor, news tips, ideas for articles and photos and other information for the Gazette to writingcenter@roxbury.edu. All submissions are subject to editing and run on a space available basis. The opinions expressed in these pages do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.

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Judith Kahalas, Coordinator of The Writing Center



Hispanic Heritage Celebration was Well Received on Campus

By **Hirut E. Arega**
Special to The Gazette

The Hispanic Heritage celebration was held on Wednesday, October 26, 2011 at 10:30 am at the Roxbury Community College campus. Professor Veronica McCormack, ESOL, and Ms. Gloria Castro, Multicultural Institute, chaired the event. It was in the Media Arts Center Main Stage.

The speaker was Dr. A. K. Spears, a linguist and anthropologist at City Uni-

versity of New York. At the same time, he speaks in four languages: English, Spanish, Portuguese, and French. In his talk, he focused on what's black and African about Spanish and English in the Americas. However, he believes that knowing many languages is a help to people because many immigrants have lived in the America. Also, he focused on Haitian and other French related Creoles.

Although the Dominican people and the Salvadorans people speak the same

languages, they have different dialects and accents. Even though the Haitian and French Creoles are the same, they have different dialects and accents as well.

In conclusion, the Hispanic Heritage Celebration was good for me because I learned how people speak Multilanguage's and I had a good time.

Ed. Note: Hirut is a student in the ESOL Level 3 class of Prof. McCormack.

What is New with the Roxbury Community College Video Club?

By **Tony Hines**
Gazette Staff Reporter

The Roxbury Community College video club is a nice way to meet new people, share ideas of the events on campus, and get involved in something more than just school. The video club at Roxbury Community College is the most active club on campus. They host the most events on campus: the bake sale, food sale, Halloween party, talent show, modeling show, and much more.

The main attraction to the Roxbury Community College Broadcast Media Technology Video Club would be the hands on experience, the friendly at-

mosphere, and the action taking place in making things happen on campus. Albert Brown is an active member in the video club on Roxbury Community College's campus.

Albert Brown became a member through a member in the video club, as did that member. Albert was most intrigued about how the Roxbury Community College Video Club was more than video technology. The atmosphere was inviting and full of interesting, cool people. Members are not necessarily majoring in Broadcast Media Technology. Anyone who is a Roxbury Community College student can attend the video club meetings. Being a member has encouraged many to switch their

major to Broadcast Media Technology, for the better of their interest in their college career.

As an active member of the video club on the Roxbury Community College's Campus, Albert Brown describes the video club as the most "productive, active, and the fastest growing club on campus."

The video club is always seen on campus conducting many activities with energy and enthusiasm. Stop by one Tuesday or Thursday when school is in session, between the hours of 11:30 am to 12:30 pm and see what the Roxbury Community College Broadcast Media Technology Video Club has to offer you.

Roxbury Community ...

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English is the area with the greatest number of students in developmental education. Teachers have been involved in learning about Reading Apprenticeship, which is a method to help students get more of what they need out of their reading.

In the last few years we focused on the classroom, improving the ways that technology and courses can help build a foundation for success throughout the students' time here. Strengthening The College Experience course has been a big part of this.

This year we are bringing increased attention to other aspects of the student experience, supporting staff in offices (registrar, admissions, financial aid, business, advising) so they coordinate better, and recognizing the educational role these employees play when working with students. In a series of focus group discussions we asked students about their experiences with these offices and services. An independent analysis of the results will lead to recommendations in January.

We are exploring ways to improve coordination of services in two other areas: one, among the various orientation experiences of new students (ori-

entation, College Experience, advising); two, for the academic support areas (tutoring, Writing Center, etc.). In both of these cases there is a lot of good support for students, but we aren't certain that it works together in the right ways, at the right times, so we are asking ourselves these important questions.

We are developing a series of short video clips so that aspects of orientation can be available on demand and accessed by admissions, in The College Experience course, in orientation and advising sessions, or independently on line, as often as needed.

This Fall RCC hosted a two-part faculty forum on The Role of Textual Evidence in Student Reading and Writing, which brought together teachers from ten local high schools and three community colleges. They explored ways to help students integrate information from readings into their writing. In Fall 2012 a similar event will be held to bring GED and community college teachers together, since many of our students come from GED programs rather than high schools.

If you have questions or comments about any of these things, contact Sterling Giles at sgiles@rcc.mass.edu, or drop into 3-201C.

Sterling Giles, Ed.M., is a Professor of ESOL and College Success and the Coordinator of Achieving the Dream at RCC.

Coach Leszczyk ...

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What goal(s) are the Lady Tigers trying to accomplish year?

Our goals are to graduate all of our sophomores while winning a National Championship. While winning the National Championship is obtainable with hard work, let's face it, injuries and other factors can derail you. However, the goal to graduate is what these student/athletes are here for and nothing should derail them from that. If we don't win a National Championship, I can still reflect back on a great season, but if my players don't graduate, I have failed at my job.

How do you see the Lady Tigers growing in the next three seasons?

We've grown so much over the past few years; I'm not sure how much more we can grow! I'd love to see us move up a Division or even two and be a Division I program, but for now we are just going to keep striving to be great ambassadors for Roxbury Community College and make the community proud!



Woman to Woman

Motherhood made me Grow Up

By **Jessica Cureton**
Special to The Gateway Gazette

Lula Hunter's editorial, "The Complexity of Motherhood," in October's Gateway Gazette, was an awesome read. As a single mother myself, I felt like this article was written just for me. Hunter describes the never-ending job of being a mother. Being a mom comes with so many duties that don't have instructions.

Being a mother is a full time job that never ends. My son Amari changed my life for the better. However, had I known how hard I would struggle in raising him, I probably might have waited.

Becoming a mother has certainly impacted my life in many ways. I was never one to go partying often, so I can't say it affected my social life. Motherhood was what I needed to grow up; knowing that I was responsible for a little life was something I didn't take lightly. I was now a role model. One can never prepare for the position, but in my case I stepped up to the Hunter states. There is nothing more important than the well-being of my son. I plan to give my son everything I had growing up. This is my reason being for coming back to school now after a seven year hiatus. I have to lead by example.

Through the Eyes of a Professor: Justin Petty

By **Tashanea Whitlow**
Gazette Staff Reporter

Professor Justin Petty, a pioneer in his field, is the Department Chair & Faculty of Broadcast Media Technology at Roxbury Community College. His background is in Broadcast Media Technology, Music Production, and Engineering. Professor Petty received his Bachelor's Degree from Berklee College of Music in Music Production & Engineering. He also has his Master's Degree from Boston University in Broadcast Administration & Science.

Hired in 1994 as the Technical Director, he managed all the technical aspects for the college. Some of his many responsibilities at the time included maintaining and ordering media equipment for the Reggie Lewis center, which at the time was in the process of being built. In September of 1995 Justin Petty became a Professor at Roxbury Community College. He taught his first class in January of 1996.

the best TV production schools in the nation, Roxbury Community College allows Broadcast Media Technology students a chance to continue on with their education at a leading four-year institute.

I asked Professor Petty what changes he has noticed at Roxbury Community College since he has been here, and he was quick to supply me with a list ranging from turnover of the Administration and Presidents to changes for good infrastructure and programs. Professor Petty also mentioned improvement in the athletic program, with teams winning several championships over the years.

In the fall of 1995 Professor Petty noticed a void that he knew he could fill. He designed and developed the curriculum for a new Broadcast Media Technology Program (BMT), and the college loved the idea, giving way to a new program with a rewarding career.

At the time, the college wasn't very supportive in terms of finances and promoting the program, leaving Professor Petty, like so many others of his colleagues, to rely on his own resources. Professor Petty gave his program the momentum he knew it desperately needed by doing his own recruiting. He visited local high schools to discuss the advantages of the BMT Program. Professor Petty also did his own Marketing & Promotion, pulling in students on his own from various high schools.

Today the Broadcast Media Technology Program (BMT) at RCC is one of the largest programs, alongside Nursing, at the college. Developing a transfer program with Emerson College, one of

In addressing the high turnover rate in the Presidential and Administrative levels, Professor Petty paused and calmly stated, "Running any institution can present challenges and obstacles that some handle better than others. Back in the day, staff, faculty, and students demanded a lot. They wanted the best for students, themselves and the college. Some presidents couldn't handle the pressure...The President is responsible for the direction the college takes, good or bad."

Roxbury Community College has come a great distance since 1994 when Professor Petty started. There is a stigma that Roxbury Community College is not an institution that prepares its students for the real world. Professor Petty strongly disagrees with the stigma but does acknowledge it, saying "Roxbury Community College was plagued with financial issues, poor customer service, and to some, the location." Assuring that students and faculty have been doing a great job breaking the stigma by correcting the problems, the faculty and students have been supplying the people with the correct information that Roxbury Community College is an institution of quality learning that prepares students for the real world.

Don't let the stigma of Roxbury Community College deter you from getting a quality education.

Roxbury Community College
Gateway to the Dream

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